



## COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

### Minutes

**January 6, 2016**

The meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order at 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 6, 2016, by Chair Diane Hundley, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina.

The following members were present and absent:

**Present:** Levonia Corry, Nathan Coyle, Jane Creech, Raemi Evans, Deborah Harris, Shelley Harper Palmer, Diane Hundley, Karl Sale, Tamara Sheffield and Jessica Vess

**Absent:** Carlton Jackson

**Staff:** Diana Moghrabi and Lynn Raker

**Council Liaison:** Maggie Blackwell

The December 2, 2015, minutes were received as published.

### COMMITTEES

#### **Neighborhoods and Education Committee**

Blockwork project was presented to City Council by chairs Barbara Perry of the Housing Advocacy Commission and Diane Hundley of the Community Appearance Commission. They had a wonderful film to offer in the presentation, which was shown to the CAC today. The secretary will upload it to Facebook.

Clyde Padgett asked about the purchase of the property next to the new park on S. Jackson Street by Salisbury CDC. He would like to see that property taken care of in a short time span—it is unsightly and a problem for the neighborhood as long as it stands there in its present condition.

The neighborhood would like to see a future resident purchase that property and rehabilitate it.

#### **Grants Committee**

The committee met and issued grants for the Rowan Museum to paint the side doors on Council Street; the guidelines allow \$250 for their estimated \$500 project. Nathan Coyle would like to revisit the guidelines, particularly with funding small projects with non-profits.

There was a request from First United Methodist Church to assist in the purchase of the sculpture *Continuum* which has been installed since last year's sculpture installations. They have raised \$6,000; the artist has agreed to lower the original price to \$8,500. The CAC approved \$2,500 to help with either the purchase or installation of the piece.

That leaves roughly \$12,500 in the ISG program and about \$15,000 in the MSD incentive grant program.

### **Public Art Committee**

Salisbury Sculpture Show entries (39) are being logged. The committee will meet January 19 for the final selection. The installation date is April 1. The CAC will be invited to the reception.

### **Landscape of the Month**

Below is the press release:

Salisbury's Community Appearance Commission (CAC) members recently selected winners for the annual Holiday Storefront Decorations Awards. This is the eleventh consecutive year of applauding downtown merchants whose windows best celebrate the holiday season.

The jury of CAC members Diane Hundley, Nathan Coyle, Levonia Corry, Jane Creech and Tamara Sheffield enjoyed viewing more than 50 seasonal displays created by downtown businesses. Joining the group as non-voting participants were CAC Council liaison Mayor Pro-Tem Maggie Blackwell and CAC staff liaison Lynn Raker. Following a downtown walking tour filled with spirited discussion, the jury selected eight awards to honor the seasonal creativity and inspiration of the shopkeepers.

Queens Gifts at 221 South Main Street received the Best Overall award for the extraordinary planning and execution of a storefront vignette featuring cinematic Christmas memories through the decades. One can only imagine the fun owner Jane Wise Crosby and staff had recalling characters and scenes from National Lampoon's Christmas vacation and other iconic holiday movies.

Most Original Window was awarded to Salisbury Wine Shop at 106 South Main Street for a single window the jury dubbed "Ebenezer's Retreat." Quite casually outfitted with vintage furnishings, the setting perfectly captures the slightly rumpled bedroom of the hapless Dickens character.

Best New Shop Award went to the Kitchen Store and More at 121 West Innes Street. Housed in the 1883 Holmes Building, one of the most handsome and well-preserved downtown buildings, this inviting new store adorns the elegant building façade with tastefully simple holiday trim. Recently opened by Dennis Lunsford, the shop introduces a variety of fine kitchenware to the Salisbury shopper.

Lost But Now Found Award was given to a new niche shop with a similar name—Lost and Found. Located along “Hogan’s Alley,” and at the back of 128 East Innes Street, the quirky entrance façade and sign sets the tone for the treasure trove of eclectic vintage articles arranged so creatively within. Far from traditional holiday décor, this façade must be commended for the unity of style. For those of a certain age, “Lost and Found” is a veritable trip back in time.

Best Themed Décor was awarded to Firehouse Sweets at 209 South Main Street. With firefighter regalia filling the left storefront window, Lisa Welch, proprietor of the confectionery, skillfully weaves her brand throughout the more traditional holiday décor in the right window.

Another new bakery won the Visions of Sugar Plums Award. The luscious window display at Abigail’s Bakery at 113 North Main Street combines elegantly fresh tones of kiwi, grape and silver in a most inviting festive display. With this the sparkling, eye-catching window, Abigail Young has designed a perfect prelude to the refreshingly spare and chic interior décor.

Best Community Partnership Award was given to Critters at 125 South Main Street for displaying the tree sponsored and decorated by Salisbury Pride for the for the ARC of Rowan Festival of Trees fundraiser and for hosting a Toys for Tots collection box. Owners Bob Lambrecht and Jon Planovsky are commended for sharing the true meaning of the season.

Year after year, the CAC thanks Linda Dukelow and her staff at Textile Products at 121 North Main Street for their always-tastefully decorated room vignettes and for adopting an otherwise vacant window across the street at 114 North Main St. This year the jury awards the adopted window the Angel Revival Award, with its nostalgic nod to the lighted tinsel angels that adorned the downtown from the late nineties until 2013.

There are many wonderful holiday displays in the downtown windows, and the jury always struggles to narrow down the field to a handful of awardees. The Community Appearance Commission thanks all the owners and staff who decorate their storefronts for the holidays and throughout the year, making downtown Salisbury such an enjoyable place to live, work, visit and shop.

All storefront decoration winners will be invited to the CAC Biennial Awards program where they will be honored for their contributions.

### **Biennial Awards**

Bon Appetite will be the caterer (\$13.95 per person), the location is the Aymer Center at Hood Theological Seminary, March 3, 2016.

Tamara will be working with Alex, a school teacher at West Rowan, regarding a special wall medallion for the awards that could possibly be made in metal. She will get a price from him.

Lynn Raker has been checking on speakers for the event. The Awards Jury will visit sites Friday, January 8.

### **Membership**

The board has received a good candidate for the position that will be available. Deborah Harris will be rotating off the CAC and Nathan said he is willing to serve another term. Maggie Blackwell said they are going back to a former model (from former Mayor Susan Kluttz) to choose candidates. Mayor Karen Alexander will be speaking to each Council member individually and making a nomination.

### **Sign Committee**

Electronic Signage Committee met at 2:30 December 22, 2015. They discussed signs in local historic districts.

## **GOALS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2016-2017 Goals and Highlights were presented to City Council by Diane Hundley. It followed the Blockwork presentation to City Council, so it was well placed in the agenda.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Dixonville-Lincoln Memorial Task Force will honor Fred Evans Monday, January 18, at 11 a.m. Invitations were distributed. A sign will be dedicated, and there will be a reception next door at First Calvary Baptist Church.
- Levonia Corry announced a program January 17, at Missionary Baptist Church at 3 p.m. She also announced that February 11 she will be inducted into Livingstone College Leaders Hall of Fame. The event is at 7 p.m.
- There will be a pre-bid meeting January 13 for the crosswalk stamping on East Innes and on North Long streets. In February it should be completed.
- Kenny Hardin attended this meeting.
- CAC celebrated Lynn Raker as Salisbury's Downtown Champion for North Carolina Main Streets. A press release will be forthcoming.

**The meeting adjourned.**